

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAFAYETTE PUBLIC UTILITIES AUTHORITY OF THE CITY-PARISH OF LAFAYETTE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 1, 2004.

ATTENDANCE

COUNCIL: Marc Mouton (Vice Chair), Christopher J. Williams, Ph.D., Louis C. Benjamin, Jr., Bruce Conque

ABSENT: Rob Stevenson (Chair)

COUNCIL STAFF: Norma Dugas (Clerk of the Council), Veronica Williams (Assistant Clerk), Monica Fontenot (Administrative Assistant)

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: L.J. Durel, Jr. (City-Parish President), Dee Stanley (CAO), Pat Ottinger (City-Parish Attorney), Terry Huval (Director of Utilities), Eleanor Bouy (Director of Planning, Zoning & Codes), Tony Tramel (Director of Traffic & Transportation), Becky Lalumia (Director of Finance & Management)

COMMENCEMENT

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(001)AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to order.

Vice Chair Marc Mouton called the Lafayette Public Utilities Authority Meeting of June 1, 2004 to order.

EXECUTIVE/PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(009)AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: President's Report.
None was given.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(012)AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: LUS Director's Report.
None was given.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ADOPTION

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(019)AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: O-019-2004(LPUA) An ordinance of the Lafayette Public Utilities Authority amending the FY 03/04 operating budget of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government to adjust amounts for group health insurance rate increases effective May 14, 2004. A motion to approve by Conque, seconded by Benjamin, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Benjamin, Conque, Mouton

NAYS: Williams

ABSENT: Stevenson

ABSTAIN: None

Motion was approved.

Williams expressed his concerns regarding the effect the increase will have on the employees; particularly those whose salaries are considered in the lower pay range scale and requested to find other resources to offset the increase until November 1. Dee Stanley explained the increase will reflect \$4.00 per pay period for single coverage and \$12.00 per pay period for family coverage. Should the Administration wait until the new fiscal year, the increase would be substantially higher. Lalumia added that the rate changes will generate an additional \$1.8 million total fund toward the deficit. Approximately \$900,000 will be generated for additional claim payments for the remainder of the fiscal year. The total that will be generated is \$203,000, with LCG picking up the remaining \$620,000 and the retirees will pick up \$69,000. If LCG would pickup the total cost, it would be a \$1.8 million spread between the general and utility funds.

Williams is concerned about the amount being taken from an employee's check that is considered in the lower income bracket and would like to see LCG pickup a large portion. Stanley explained the additional net impact to the general and utility fund would be approximately \$250,000 if the subject matter would be deferred until November 1. He stated there was a 5-month study conducted based upon health claims. The group health fund has exhausted its surplus; therefore, the Administration felt it best to increase a portion now since there has been no increase in 3 years. Durel added it has not been an easy decision to make regarding an insurance increase but

felt it important that LCG employees have a “healthy” insurance plan. Benjamin also expressed his concerns regarding the cost of insurance for those employees in the low salary bracket.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(340)AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: O-020-2004(LPUA) An ordinance of the Lafayette Public Utilities Authority providing for the abandonment of a utility easement in Acacia Bluff Subdivision, located at the intersection of East Bayou Parkway and Acacia Drive. A motion to approve by Conque, seconded by Benjamin, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Benjamin, Conque, Mouton

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Williams, Stevenson

ABSTAIN: None

Motion was approved.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(349)AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: O-021-2004(LPUA) An ordinance of the Lafayette Public Utilities Authority providing for the abandonment of a utility easement on Lot 1 of Alfred Leonpacher and Lot 2 of Stefan Leonpacher, having municipal addresses of 116 Acacia Drive and 114 Acacia Drive, respectively. A motion to approve by Benjamin, seconded by Conque, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Benjamin, Conque, Mouton

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Williams, Stevenson

ABSTAIN: None

Motion was approved.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(358)AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: O-022-2004(LPUA) An ordinance of the Lafayette Public Utilities Authority providing for the abandonment of an electrical easement on Lot 1 of East Bayou Baptist Church, having municipal address of 2234 Kaliste Saloom Road. A motion to approve by Conque, seconded by Benjamin, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Benjamin, Conque, Mouton

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Williams, Stevenson

ABSTAIN: None

Motion was approved.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(367)AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: O-023-2004(LPUA) An ordinance of the Lafayette Public Utilities Authority providing for the abandonment of a utility easement on Tract 1 of Greentree Properties, Incorporated, having a municipal address of 1850 West Pinhook Road. A motion to approve by Conque, seconded by Benjamin, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Benjamin, Conque, Mouton

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Williams, Stevenson

ABSTAIN: None

Motion was approved.

Mr. Kaliste Saloom filled out a blue sheet to express his support of the abandonment; however, he chose not to address the authority.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(381)AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: O-024-2004(LPUA) An ordinance of the Lafayette Public Utilities Authority providing for the abandonment of the utility niches on Lots A-2, A-3, A-6, and A-7 in Phase III of the Village of River Ranch, having municipal addresses of 112 Settlers Trace Boulevard, 108 Settlers Trace Boulevard, 106 Settlers Trace Boulevard and 102 Settlers Trace Boulevard, respectively. A motion to approve by Conque, seconded by Benjamin, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Benjamin, Conque, Mouton

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Williams, Stevenson

ABSTAIN: None

Motion was approved.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(393)AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: O-025-2004(LPUA) An ordinance of the Lafayette Public Utilities Authority providing for the abandonment of a portion of Digby Avenue and utility easements and the granting of drainage and utility easements on Tract 1, Lot 87 and Lot 88 in Phase 2 of Austin Village, having municipal addresses of 412 Digby Avenue and 413 Digby Avenue, respectively. A motion to defer and reman back to the Planning Commission by Conque, seconded by Benjamin, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Benjamin, Conque, Mouton

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Williams, Stevenson

ABSTAIN: None

Motion was approved.

Mr. Robert Austin stated the Planning, Zoning & Codes and Traffic & Transportation Departments have approved the subject abandonment but wasn't sure as to why a request was made for deferment. Conque explained he made the motion to defer because 2 out of 4 departments have recommended not abandoning the property. Since the Planning Commission originally approved the plat, he felt that any deviation from the plan should be considered by the Planning Commission and if it did not meet his approval then he could consider the appellant process. Therefore, Conque requested this item be deferred until 100% approval could be obtained from all necessary departments.

INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(448)AGENDA ITEM NOS. 11: A motion was offered by Conque, seconded by Benjamin, to approve for introduction the following ordinance and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Williams, Benjamin, Conque, Mouton

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Stevenson

ABSTAIN: None

Motion was approved.

11. O-026-2004(LPUA) An ordinance of the Lafayette Public Utilities Authority amending the FY 03/04 operating budget of the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government by decreasing Director's Reserve in the Department of Utilities and increasing amounts appropriated for salaries and benefits for the Water Distribution Division in the amount of \$21,656.73 to correct a pay assignment as approved by the Lafayette City-Parish Civil Service Board.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(592)AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Comments from the public concerning the above Introductory Ordinance.

No speakers.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(620)AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Comments from the public on other matters.

The following person was recognized:

Joe Giglio of Liskow & Lewis, attorney appointed representing Cox Communications, expressed his concerns regarding LUS' future telecommunications endeavor. He read a statement and provided information regarding a survey, which reflected the majority constituents in all districts to be opposed to the endeavor. He added that the poll was not done by Cox to sway public opinion but rather was done for its own use in considering this issue. Mr. Giglio suggested that before voting to pledge any revenues of LUS to support this proposal, let the citizens vote.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the LPUA, Vice Chair Mouton declared the Regular LPUA meeting adjourned.

Norma A. Dugas
Clerk of the Council